



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VII
901 NORTH 5TH STREET
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

SEP 12 2006

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Romech
AKA: Douglas & Lomason Company
AKA: Magna Lomason
2700 N Broadway
Red Oak, Iowa 51566
EPA ID # IAD041107871

FROM: Cynthia Hutchison
ENSV/EAMB

Bob Aston
ARTD/RCAP

THRU: Howard Bunch
CNSL

TO: Lynn M. Slugantz, Chief
ARTD/RCAP Branch

This memorandum documents the determination that corrective action is complete for Romech of Red Oak, Iowa. The memo also recommends recording a CA999 (corrective action complete) data code in RCRA Info for this facility. Romech received a National Corrective Action Priority (NCAP) ranking of low on January 7, 1993.

Site History: On August 12, 1980, Douglas & Lomason Company notified EPA and the state of Iowa that they generated and managed hazardous waste at their Red Oak, Iowa facility. The waste codes identified were F001, F005, F006, F007, F008, F009, and F017. The plant manufactured automotive seating hardware and did zinc plating and painting on some of that hardware.

On November 18, 1980, Douglas & Lomason submitted their Part A Hazardous Waste permit application. They identified container storage, tank storage, tank treatment, and a landfill as their regulated activities. However, on September 11, 1981, they sent a letter to EPA stating they had made errors on their previous submissions due to misunderstanding the waste codes. They stated they have never operated any type of

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RCRA RECORDS



hazardous waste landfill on site but ship their waste to approved off-site landfills. They thought the D80 code meant the waste was sent to any landfill. They also removed some of the previously identified waste codes since they do not use cyanides in their operations.

The state of Iowa conducted a June 6, 1982 inspection, noted that there was no waste on site and determined that Douglas & Lomason should not be required to submit a closure plan. In August 1982, EPA determined that this facility was actually a small quantity generator (SQG) and should submit a request for withdrawal of their Part A permit. On February 14, 1983, Iowa Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) sent a letter to them terminating their Part A application. The stated reasons were the reported small quantity of chrome hydroxide being generated as 700 pounds, not to exceed 1,400 pounds, of trivalent chrome hydroxide filtrated sludge; the D80 notation was given in error and the paint waste was described as a non-hazardous waste.

IDEQ told the facility they must submit a Closure Plan prior to being released from interim status. Their first Closure Plan was two pages long and was submitted on June 14, 1985. EPA eventually public noticed their Closure Plan on March 25, 1992, it was certified closed by Douglas & Lomason on May 11, 1993, but has not been verified by EPA.

On August 6, 1987, EPA inspected the Red Oak facility. The facility was cited with 18 violations of the RCRA requirements. Their November 10, 1987 response to the notice of violation concluded they had always been a conditionally exempt small quantity generator (CESQG). Their legal counsel reviewed their records and determined their previous status was in error. Correspondence between lawyers for the company and the EPA continued until in June 1989 when EPA determined the company did generate, manage, and store hazardous chromate sludge before September 17, 1982 for periods of time that would subject them to interim status requirements. All parties agreed to disagree but to go ahead with Closure of two storage units by the company.

A RCRA Facility Assessment (RFA) was conducted by EPA contractor Ecology and Environment, Inc. The March 8, 1991 RFA stated "Other than closure of interim status and other RCRA-regulated storage areas, no further work appears warranted at this time."

Interim status for Douglas & Lomason expired, by statute, on November 8, 1992. No formal release was necessary. On May 24, 1993, EPA told the facility that they were released from interim status for their storage units, they did not need to continue closure cost assurance and they were now only subject to generator regulations.

On February 8, 1999, EPA was notified of a name change to Romech, subsidiary of Magna Lomason, Inc. The facility identified themselves as a CESQG.

On June 9, 2003, EPA sent contractors from Booz Allen Hamilton to do a site visit to verify the closure and corrective action status of the Romech facility in Red Oak.

There were no recommendations for further investigation and conditions were documented to be as EPA records indicated: closure completed no further investigation or corrective action necessary.

On November 25, 2003, the facility notified EPA of another change to Romech, a division of Intier Automotive Seating of America, Inc. with the legal owner identified as MI Developments, Inc.

Recommendation: The EPA file states the facility's interim status has "expired, by statute, on November 8, 1992." There appears to be no need for further investigation, remediation or administrative procedure for this facility. Solid Waste Disposal Act (SWDA) § 3005 (c)(2)(B) requires that EPA or an authorized state must either issue or deny a permit by November 8, 1992. In the case of this facility, there is no permit to issue since they did not conduct permittable operations and did not wish to have a permit. The statute does not require a public notice of permit denial. Regulations at 40 CFR 270.73(g) Termination of Interim Status states: "For owners or operators of any facility (other than a land disposal or an incinerator facility) which has achieved interim status prior to November 8, 1984, interim status terminates on November 8, 1992, unless the owner or operator of the facility submits a part B application for a RCRA permit for the facility by November 8, 1988." It appears that no public notice is necessary for this particular facility. I recommend placement of a CA999 code in the RCRA Info database signifying corrective action is complete for Romech.